

Restoration Coordination



Agenda Item 4a

Memorandum

Date: March 25, 1998
To: CALFED Policy Group
From: Lester A. Snow
Executive Director
Subject: Restoration Coordination

Summary of 1998 Funding

The Policy Group has made recommendations (for projects and programs) to allocate the full 1997-1998 funding which totals \$157 million (see Attachment 1). Those recommendations include \$85 million for 71 individual projects and \$55 million for programs. The Policy Group recommended approval of the 71 projects at the November and December meetings and recommended approval for the funding allocation by programs at the February meeting.

As described at the February Policy Group meeting, the \$55 million for programs will be allocated as either a designated action to an agency for implementation, or will be allocated through a proposal solicitation process. The next proposal solicitation is scheduled for April 1998. Attachment 2 describes the funding allocated for designated actions and for proposal solicitation. All remaining funds except \$5.8 million will be either included in the April solicitation or committed as a designated action. Additional program development and scoping is necessary for the remaining \$5.8 million before proposals are solicited.

The Proposal Solicitation Package will allocate approximately \$26 million in state and federal funds (see Attachment 3). To meet the deadline to select proposals by September 1998 (end of the 1998 federal fiscal year) we are planning to finalize and mail the Proposal Solicitation Package by the end of April before the next Policy Group meeting. Therefore we are asking for Policy Group approval of the tasks and schedule for the Proposal Solicitation Package. The tasks and schedule are described in Attachment 4.

CALFED Agencies

California	The Resources Agency Department of Fish and Game Department of Water Resources California Environmental Protection Agency State Water Resources Control Board	Federal	Environmental Protection Agency Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service Bureau of Reclamation U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service Department of Commerce National Marine Fisheries Service
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Action - Decision

The Policy Group will be asked to approve the schedule and tasks for finalizing the Proposal Solicitation Package.

Detailed Discussion

Proposals will be solicited through a coordinated set of packages prepared by state, federal, and CALFED staff. It is the goal to have one document mailed by CALFED including all programs and including both state and federal funds, but with clear and distinct requirements for each solicitation package and funding source. The schedule and tasks described in Attachment 4 will provide for a coordinated solicitation process with the goal of final decisions on project selection by the end of the 1998 federal fiscal year.

Technical Review Process. The technical review of proposals will be divided between CALFED, for the state funds and federal agencies for the federal funds. Technical Review Panels will be formed to review and provide initial recommendations for selection of proposals. CALFED will provide a coordination role to ensure that the schedule and standards for technical review are consistent. The technical review process should include technical experts from state and federal agencies as well as from outside the agencies. The process should provide a mechanism to ensure that each project has a detailed scope, budget, and deliverables. The Ecosystem Roundtable will provide input into the formation of the panels.

Confidentiality and Communication. For the Proposal Solicitation Package, the goal is to have multiple opportunities to answer questions from potential applicants during the application period, an opportunity to interview applicants during the review process and identify modifications to their proposals, and an opportunity to have the Ecosystem Roundtable provide input on each recommended proposal. The confidentiality and communication requirements are being discussed with state and federal legal counsel.

Selection Criteria and Rating System. For the Proposal Solicitation Package the selection criteria should continue to address the 1997 priorities, as well as the additional guidance given by the Policy Group at the January meeting regarding watershed planning and the North Bay region. The goal is to have the Management Team and Ecosystem Roundtable provide input on the criteria and rating system. The criteria and rating system may be based on the 1997 RFP criteria with modifications and improvements as needed.

Attachments